

*Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today released the following statement after the release of updated recommendations to address the development and production of shale gas resources in New York State through the use of horizontal, high-volume, slick water hydraulic fracturing.*

*Hinchey is a leader in the effort to protect drinking water and the environment from the risks of hydraulic fracturing. He is a co-author of the FRAC Act, which would mandate public disclosure of chemicals used in frack fluid and allow the EPA to regulate fracking activities under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The congressman also authored the appropriations language that led to the current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency study on hydraulic fracturing. Last week, Hinchey sent letters to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA) questioning the manner in which both bodies have handled shale gas reserve estimates.*

"Given all we know, we must take every precaution necessary to protect New York's drinking water, environment and local communities from the risks of shale gas production. This is a tremendously complex issue that merits intense scrutiny. I thank Commissioner Martens and his staff for the hard work they have put into this new draft. I will closely examine the new 900-page document when it comes out next week, along with the socioeconomic impact analysis due later this month, and will provide a full response to the state once that review is complete. "